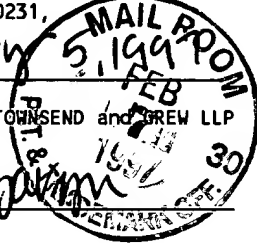


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on

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and GREW LLP

By



Attorney Docket No. 16238-000700

PATENT

#5/R

*[Signature]*

W/Election

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

PHILIP E. EGGERS et al.

Examiner: M. Mendez

Application No.: 08/561,958

Art Unit: 3306

Filed: November 22, 1995

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION  
REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR  
ELECTROSURGICAL CUTTING AND  
ABLATION

RECEIVED

FEB 19 1997

GROUP 3300

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed January 7, 1997, please amend this application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1, 23, 24, 29, 30, 43, 45, 48, 52, 54 and 55 as follows.

1. (Once Amended) A method for applying electrical energy to a target site on a structure within a patient's body, the method comprising:

providing an active electrode and a return electrode electrically coupled to a high frequency voltage source;

positioning [an] the active electrode into at least close proximity with the target site in the presence of an electrically conducting liquid;

positioning [a] the return electrode within the electrically conducting liquid to generate a current flow path between the target site and the return electrode; and